
General Francis Marion Hotel

Marion, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, *Virginia Green* encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

General Francis Marion Hotel

"The General Francis Marion Hotel is a restored 80-year old, 36 room, hotel offering elegant lodging and modern amenities. The General Francis Marion Hotel stands imposingly in historic downtown Marion, Virginia, showcasing the stately architecture and refined décor that awed travelers in the late 1920's."



Green Statement: "The owner of the General Francis Marion Hotel is big into the Green idea."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Lodging

“☒” This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Participants self-certify that they activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to the General Francis Marion Hotel can expect the following practices:

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Change linens only upon request
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use linens service providers that employ "wet" versus "dry" cleaning

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle Glass Bottles and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: grease, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment

- Track overall waste bills
- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill
- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps
- Fill up shampoo bottles
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Use reusable dishware and glassware, and minimize use of disposables
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Provide condiments , cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Donate excess food from events
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Purchase organic and “sustainably-grown” foods
- Filter their grease to prolong usefulness
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use “green” cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Purchase low VOC carpets and fabrics
- Use latex paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use a last-in/first-out inventory and labeling system
- Use less toxic materials
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Have a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - low flow toilets
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective stormwater management plan including: minimization of impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc)

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Use:
 - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
 - LED Exit Signs
 - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Use natural lighting
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances

- Have thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Use fuel efficient vehicles or hybrid vehicles
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☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages
- “Using no paper products for meetings – offer any left-overs to customers to take home instead of throwing away.”

For more information on the **General Francis Marion Hotel**, see www.gfmhotel.com or contact **Robert Lincoln** at rwlincoln.grmh@comcast.net.

For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of *Virginia Green*, the Commonwealth’s campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

